

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03430 241639Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /107 W
-----019942 250704Z /15

R 241552Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6178
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03430

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, EAID, MASS, ET, GW
SUBJECT: FRG/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS: ETHIOPIA EXPELLS
GERMAN POLICE ADVISORS

REFS: (A) BONN 1408 (NOTAL)
(B) 77 BONN 16541 (NOTAL)
(C) 77 BONN 12898 (NOTAL)

1. THE ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMED THE FRG
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EMBASSY IN ADDIS EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THE CONTINUED
PRESENCE OF THE THREE GERMAN ADVISORS TO THE ETHIOPIAN
POLICE WAS NO LONGER WELCOME. THE ADVISORS ARE BEING
WITHDRAWN AND THE FRG HAS CANCELLED POLICE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM FOR ETHIOPIA.

2. ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THE TIMING OF THE

ETHIOPIAN MOVE WAS UNEXPECTED, ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN KNOWN THAT ETHIOPIA'S EASTERN FRIENDS -- PRINCIPALLY THE GDR -- HAD BEEN AGITATING AGAINST THE FRG PROGRAM FOR SOME TIME. THE FACT THAT, SINCE THE PROGRAM'S INCEPTION, THE ADVISORS HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE BUNDESWEHR MAY HAVE ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECISION.

3. WITHOUT ADVISORS IN THE FIELD TO ADMINISTER IT, THE FOREIGN OFFICE DETERMINED THAT THE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAD TO BE CANCELLED. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE FRG PLANS NO RETALIATORY MOVES AT THE PRESENT TIME, ALTHOUGH INTERNAL DELIBERATIONS ARE NOT YET CONCLUDED.

4. COMMENT: THE FRG HAD JUSTIFIED THE POLICE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN SOME SMALL ELEMENT OF LEVERAGE ON THE ADDIS GOVERNMENT. WITH ITS CANCELLATION, FOLLOWING CLOSELY ON THE EXPULSION OF THE AMBASSADOR AND THE DEFENSE ATTACHE AND THE CLOSURE OF THE GERMAN SCHOOL, THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE LEFT OTHER THAN BASIC DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE FRG IS NOT LIKELY TO DO ANYTHING TO AGGRAVATE THE SITUATION, BUT OUR CONTACTS ARE QUITE CONCERNED THAT THE ETHIOPIANS' NEXT MOVE WILL BE TO CLOSE THE EMBASSY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, POLICE FORCES, ATTACHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN03430
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780087-0704
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780219/aaaaapge.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ebd6dad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BONN 1408, 77 BONN 16541, 77 BONN 12898
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3492943
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS: ETHIOPIA EXPELLS GERMAN POLICE ADVISORS
TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, EAID, MASS, ET, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ebd6dad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014